

to immobilization and forfeiture of assets, restitution, and collection of fines; and rendering any other form of assistance not prohibited by the laws of the Requested State.

I recommend that the Senate give early and favorable consideration to the Treaty and give its advice and consent to ratification.

William J. Clinton

The White House,
January 31, 2000.

**Message to the Congress Certifying
No New Commitments Under the
New NATO Strategic Concept**

January 31, 2000

To the Congress of the United States:

Pursuant to the authority vested in me as President of the United States, including by section 1221(a) of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2000 (Public Law 106-65), I hereby determine and certify that the new NATO Strategic Concept imposes no new commitment or obligation on the United States. Further, in accordance with section 1221(c) of the Act, I transmit herewith the attached unclassified report to the Congress on the potential threats facing the North Atlantic Treaty Organization.

William J. Clinton

The White House,
January 31, 2000.

**Memorandum on Funding for
International Financial Institutions
and Other International
Organizations and Programs**

January 31, 2000

Presidential Determination No. 2000-10

Memorandum for the Secretary of State

Subject: Determination Pursuant to Section 523 of the Foreign Operations, Export Financing, and Related Programs Appropriations Act, 2000, as Contained in the Consolidated Appropriations Act for FY 2000 (Public Law 106-113)

Pursuant to section 523 of the Foreign Operations, Export Financing, and Related Pro-

grams Appropriations Act, 2000, as Contained in the Consolidated Appropriations Act for FY 2000 (Public Law 106-113), I hereby certify that withholding from international financial institutions and other international organizations and programs funds appropriated or otherwise made available pursuant to that Act is contrary to the national interest.

You are authorized and directed to publish this determination in the *Federal Register*.

William J. Clinton

[Filed with the Office of the Federal Register, 8:45 a.m., February 3, 2000]

NOTE: This memorandum was released by the Office of the Press Secretary on February 1, and it was published in the *Federal Register* on February 4.

**Message to the Congress on the
United States Air Force Operating
Location Near Groom Lake, Nevada**

January 31, 2000

To the Congress of the United States:

Consistent with section 6001(a) of the Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA) (the "Act"), as amended, 42 U.S.C. 6961(a), notification is hereby given that on September 20, 1999, I issued Presidential Determination 99-37 (copy enclosed) and thereby exercised the authority to grant certain exemptions under section 6001(a) of the Act.

Presidential Determination 99-37 exempted the United States Air Force's operating location near Groom Lake, Nevada, from any Federal, State, interstate, or local hazardous or solid waste laws that might require the disclosure of classified information concerning that operating location to unauthorized persons. Information concerning activities at the operating location near Groom Lake has been properly determined to be classified, and its disclosure would be harmful to national security. Continued protection of this information is, therefore, in the paramount interest of the United States.

The determination was not intended to imply that in the absence of a Presidential exemption, RCRA or any other provision of

law permits or requires the disclosure of classified information to unauthorized persons. The determination also was not intended to limit the applicability or enforcement of any requirement of law applicable to the Air Force's operating location near Groom Lake except those provisions, if any, that would require the disclosure of classified information.

William J. Clinton

The White House,
January 31, 2000.

NOTE: This message was released by the Office of the Press Secretary on February 1.

**Message to the Congress
Transmitting the Latvia-United
States Fisheries Agreement**

January 31, 2000

To the Congress of the United States:

In accordance with the Magnuson-Stevens Fisheries Conservation and Management Act (16 U.S.C. 1801 *et seq.*), I transmit herewith an Agreement between the Government of the United States of America and the Government of the Republic of Latvia extending the Agreement of April 8, 1993, Concerning Fisheries Off the Coasts of the United States, with annex, as extended (the "1993 Agreement"). The present Agreement, which was effected by an exchange of notes at Riga on June 7 and September 27, 1999, extends the 1993 Agreement to December 31, 2002.

In light of the importance of our fisheries relationship with the Republic of Latvia, I urge that the Congress give favorable consideration to this Agreement at an early date.

William J. Clinton

The White House,
January 31, 2000.

NOTE: This message was released by the Office of the Press Secretary on February 1.

**Letter to Congressional Leaders
Transmitting a Report on the Status
of the Ratification of World
Intellectual Property Organization
Treaties**

January 31, 2000

Dear Mr. Speaker: (Dear Mr. President:)

As required by the second proviso of the resolution of advice and consent to ratification of the World Intellectual Property Organization Copyright Treaty and the World Intellectual Property Organization Performances and Phonograms Treaty, passed by the Senate on October 21, 1998, I transmit herewith the first report on the status of the ratification of those treaties and related matters.

Sincerely,

William J. Clinton

NOTE: Identical letters were sent to J. Dennis Hastert, Speaker of the House of Representatives, and Jesse Helms, chairman, Senate Committee on Foreign Relations. This letter was released by the Office of the Press Secretary on February 1.

**Remarks Prior to a Meeting With
Congressional Leaders and an
Exchange With Reporters**

February 1, 2000

Legislative Agenda

The President. Let me say I am delighted to have the congressional leadership here today—a good day for them to come, because today all of us as Americans celebrate the month where we mark the longest economic expansion in the history of the United States. It's an expansion that was earned by the American people through hard work, high technology, open markets, fiscal discipline, and one that I think we can all be justifiably proud of, but we ought to be determined to continue to deepen, to improve.

I also am looking forward to working in what will be a fast-paced congressional year, because of all the other things that are going on this year. But I think if we work together, we can get a lot done. And I am hoping that among other things, that the areas where there's already been some expressed interest